

C. REMARKS

The claims have been amended in order to place the application in better form.

Claims 1, 2, 14, 16, and 21-24 have been cancelled, and Claims 25, 27, and 28 have been amended. The fact that Claims 1, 2, 14, 16, and 21-24 have been cancelled without prejudice is not to be construed as an admission by Applicants or Applicants' attorneys that such claims are not patentable.

Claim 2 has been cancelled without prejudice, and the limitations of Claim 2 have incorporated into Claims 25, 27 and 28. All other remaining claims ultimately depend upon Claim 25, Claim 27, or Claim 28.

The Examiner had indicated that certain claims, i.e., Claims 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 10, 11, 12 and 26, defined allowable subject matter because the cited reference, Girotti, et al., failed to disclose or suggest that the compound that binds to the inorganic oxide by hydrogen bonding is a triethanolamine, sulfolane, tetraethylpentamine, diethylglycoldibenzoate, or a glycol.

All of the presently pending claims now are directed to a (i) process for producing an inorganic oxide that contains micropores and mesopores by heating a mixture comprising water, an inorganic oxide, a crystalline zeolite, and at least one compound that binds to the inorganic oxide by hydrogen bonding, wherein the compound is selected from the group consisting of triethanolamine, sulfolane, tetraethylpentamine, diethylglycoldibenzoate, and a glycol; or (ii) a product comprising an inorganic oxide and zeolite beta, which includes mesopores and micropores, wherein the micropores are present in an amount of from 3% to 60% by pore volume, wherein the mesopores have been generated by an organic pore-forming agent selected from the group consisting of triethanolamine, sulfolane, tetraethylpentamine, diethylglycoldibenzoate, and a glycol.

Thus, for the above reasons and others, all claims define allowable subject matter.

For the above reasons and others, this application is in condition for allowance, and it is therefore respectfully requested that the objection, and the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 102(b), be reconsidered and withdrawn and a favorable action is hereby solicited.

Respectfully submitted,


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